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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/788,704	02/27/2004	Byung-Il Park	51876P593	7021

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EXAMINER

AUDUONG, GENE NGHIA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2827

DATE MAILED: 02/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/788,704

Applicant(s)

PARK, BYUNG-IL

Examiner

Gene N. Auduong

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

4. Claims 1-2 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Zerbe et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,643,787).

Regarding claim 1, Zerbe et al. disclose a semiconductor memory device having a bank for storing a data and a port as a data I/O terminal (figures 5 and 6), comprising: a transmitter for delivering the data inputted from the port (figure 6, transistor 70); global data bus (data bus 30) flowing an appearing current corresponding to the data outputted from the transmitter 70; and a receiver (figure 6, receiver 60; figure 18) for sensing the appearing current by using current-mirror and delivering the data corresponding to the sensed appearing current into the bank (figure 6, slave/memory 12a), wherein a swing range of a data bus voltage in response to the

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appearing current narrower than gap between a supply voltage and a ground (col. 1, lines 18+; col. 2, lines 22+; col. 6, lines 19+; col.7, lines 52+; col. 15, lines 43+).

Regarding claim 2, Zerbe et al. disclose the semiconductor memory device as recited in claim 1, wherein the supply voltage is supplied to the current mirror (figures 9, 15 and 18).

Regarding claim 10, Zerbe et al. disclose the semiconductor memory device as recited in claim 1. Zerbe et al. do not specifically disclose wherein the transmitter includes NMOS transistor, coupled between the global data bus and a ground, having a gate coupled to the data. However, MOS transistor is commonly used in the integrated for accessing or interconnecting the sub-device in response to the enable/control signal. Inherently, in the integrated circuit, a MOS transistor should be included in Zerbe et al. circuit for accessing or interconnecting the current device to the sub-device in response to the enable/control signal.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 3-9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record does not show or fairly suggest, in addition to other element in the claim, claiming the structure and function for the circuit as claimed in figure 3; wherein the receiver includes: a current mirror block for mirroring the appearing current of the global data bus to output a mirrored voltage as the data; and a latch block for inverting the mirrored voltage outputted from the current mirror block and latching the converse mirrored voltage as the data to output the data into the port.

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Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gene N. Auduong whose telephone number is (571) 272-1773.

The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5-4, alternate second Monday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoai Ho can be reached on (571) 272-1777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GA
February 08, 2005



Gene N Auduong
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2827